0597-55

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

4101 Pickett Road Fairfax, VA 22032 February 21, 1997

Federal Communications Commission 1919 M. Street N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036

RECEIVED

MAR 1 0 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Sir or Madam:

My name is Steve Furze and I am 14 years old. I am writing to you to express my concern about the rating of television shows. I think that rating tv shows is a good idea because many shows have content not suitable for young children. Although the ratings are an important thing, I pay no attention to them. The thing I would like to know is how a show is rated. Let's say there is a show that has a very good message for kids about drugs or violence or something, but is full of violent scenes. How would this show be rated? Another thing is, what is there on tv that is so terrible that I have to wait to be 14 to see it? I can't think of much. I think that tv ratings are good but would be much better with a little refining.

From,

Steve Furze

No. List	of Copies ABCDE	rec'd_	



The Diocese of Lubbock

The Catholic Center

Grand Land

US97-55

P.O. Box 98700 Lubbock, Texas 79499-8700 Phone: (806) 792-3943

4620 4th Street Lubbock, Texas 79416 Private Fax: (806) 792-2953

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Reed Hundt, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Hundt:

February 12, 1997

As the spiritual leader of the more than 50,000 Catholics of the Diocese of Lubbock, I am encouraging our faithful to participate in the national "Turn Off TV Day" scheduled for February 14, 1997. I will be encouraging additional actions with increasing fervor in the future.

The Federal Communications Commission has failed to enforce Federal broadcast indecency law against television stations in this country. Indecent programming, which is reaching both adults and children in our families, is clearly objectionable.

The rating proposal from the Motion Picture Association of America, which essentially uses age rather than programming content as its criterion. is also completely unacceptable.

Modern television communications, when used properly, can be an effective tool for the betterment of our society. As our television medium is presently being used, however, it is causing serious damage to our families and to our society.

Pease exercise much greater vigilance in executing your responsibility as Chairmen of the Federal Communications Committee.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Rev. Plácido Rodríguez, CMF

Bishop of Lubbock

PR/bb

CC: Deborah Schuknecht, Catholic Daughters of America

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DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

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MAR 1 0 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt Federal Communications Commission 1919 M. Street NW Washington, DC 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Chairman Hundt,

February 17, 1997

Thank you for all you are doing to help families get the best from television.

I am writing to express my dissatisfaction with the new current age-based TV ratings system. I do not feel they give *concerned* parents enough information to make good judgement as to what children should be allowed to watch.

As a member of the National Association for Family and Community Education, concerned for families, I feel that society as a whole needs to do all we can to help parents to raise decent productive citizens. Children are our most valuable asset.. They are our future!

Please use your position to see that there is a public hearing on the TV Rating system.

Sincerely,

Betty Reynolds

Rt. 1, Box 274 Anderson, MO 64831

Bethy Keynelds

417-775-2850

cc: Senator Christopher Bond Senator John Ashcroft Federal Communications Commissioners



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Appeton Suist FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

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To be effective. Please Somethal

This! Should you!

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February 17, 1997

Chairman Reed Hundt Federal Communications Commission

1919 M Street, NW Washington DC. 20554

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MAR 1 0 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Mr. Hundt:

I write to you to express my concern that the TV industry is missing a tremendous opportunity to provide parents with enough information on the shows their kids watch. The proposed age-based rating system does not provide parents with specific information on the content of the programs, which would enable them to make accurate and meaningful decisions about what is appropriate for their children to watch.

A wide range of children's experts -- including Children Now, the American Medical Association, the National Education Association, the American Psychological Association, and the Coalition for America's Children among others -- support a content-based system rather than the proposed age-based one. And two recent polls, by the National PTA and the Media Studies Center, showed that 80% of parents support a descriptive system over a movie-ratings system. I must join the experts and parents in expressing my support for a content-based system and I urge you to respect their judgments and add specific content labels to your ratings system.

Sincerely,

Mary French

1697 Visalia Avenue

Mary French

Berkeley, CA 94707

I have two sons, ages 7 \$ 9 and I would personally much prefer the content-based rating system.

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CS97-55

BILL BURLESON

February 8, 1997

RECEIVED

MAR 1 0 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Mr.Reed Hundt FCC Chairman 1919 M Street NW Washington, D. C. 20036

Re: TV Program Labeling

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Control of the Contro

Dear Mr. Hundt:

I rise to oppose the FCC's TV program labeling as to program content. The freedom of speech as granted under the First Amendment to our Constitution, is being used unwisely in the TV programing in today's society. It has promoted to much sexual freedom, to much violence and to much lack of displine to the wrong doers. The moral fiber of our country is in "high gear" toward being a very amoral nation.

I support the Parent Teacher Association position as to the labeling of various type of TV programs. I appeal to you for your support in support of this PTA program. As a grand parent helping to rear 3 grand children I am very concerned about how our children are being reared. Your help if badly needed. MAY WE COUNT ON YOU!

Sincerely for our CHILDREN!

Bill Burleson

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0597-55

The North Carolina

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL Extension Homemakers Association, Inc.

RECEIVED

MAR 1 0 1997

617 Surley Dairy Rd.

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Pikeuille, n.e. 27863 February 22, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt Federal Communications Commission 1919 m Street, NW Hashington, D.C. 20554 Dear Sir:

I am writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of ite receiver of the television industry's rating system.

The national association for Family and Community Education and its appliate, north Carolina Extension Homemaker association of which I am a member, are grass-roots organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for the past 60 years. Ite are concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented television rating system does not address the needs of parento. The puestions generated by the current age-based television rating system deserve a public hearing. Ite urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in america today.

No. of Copies rec'd_ List ABCDE Sincerely, Mozelle R. Lurley

MAR 1 0 1997 No. of Copies recommendation No. of Copies rec'are
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The Hand

The Secretary

The Sec iche Tederal de rate unt FCC does of left of TV proposal (or 1) OI

The MPAA proposal (or 1) OI amas TV's

Feb. 17, RECEIVED

70: Chauman Reed Hundt

MAR 1 0 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The past forlure of the FCC to enferce the Federal broadcase indepency law against TV stations is a primary reason why so snuch TV programming Offendo all Comercans. the government has a valid interest in protecting all americans from indecent programming. I would like you to know the FCC should enforce the proadcast indecency law againer TV Stations. With the down of the U-Chip the FCC must reject the flowed ratings proposal from the Motion. Picture asser of america of substitute Chatead a system that Rates programming by content as parents dinada. Thanks,

May an Illowor porent

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2-14-97

The Honorable Beed Hund 4, My entire family agreer emphatically with the circled caption in the enclared article.

sets not susprising that young children Today are commetting herrow cremer which They were on TV and the movies. It may time of the day or night there are programs which are totally immoral and a great danger to our children and our society. set in our greatest concern that this is remedied poor. Until Then, we remain,

Concerned & digens

the Mourink Family

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CS 97-55

February 12, 1997

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

FCC
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Attention: The Hon. Reed Hundt, Chairman, FCC

Dear Mr. Hundt:

In two (2) days, the sixth annual National Turn Off TV Day will be here. Rather than watch television that day, I will spend quality time in another capacity and the way the television shows are going, you must admit that ANY TIME not watching TV seems to be quality time. With a few exceptions...but very few. What has happened?????

The TV rating systems are flawed and I encourage you...and pray for you...to enforce the broadcast indecency law against TV stations. Someone MUST take a stand. Is that you???

"The Supreme Court has stated there is a 'right of the nation...to maintain a decent society,' and a decent society cannot be maintained simply by giving parents a 'V-chip' to fend off a flood tide of indecent TV programming engulfing the nation".

And we wonder why our children are going astray. They are "sponges" soaking up what they see. If they continue to see violence, they will become immune to it...if they continue to see immorality, it will become a part of their life. Is that the kind of country we want??? I am a mother and grandmother and I say, NOW IS THE TIME FOR ACTION.

Will you PLEASE be a part of setting this country on the right path? I pray that you do.

Respectfully,

Gina Settimi

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(LETTERHEAD)

RECEIVED MAR 1 0 1997

FEDERAL COL

February 1997	DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL	OFFICE OF SECRETARY
The Honorable		
The Honorable	nmission	
1919 M Street, NW		
Washington, D.C. 20554		
Commissioner	:	
We are writing to urge the Fe review of the television indust	ederal Communications Commission to hold ry's rating system.	l a public hearing as part of its
Homemakers Association, are g	amily and Community Education and its affil grass-roots organizations which have been ac oncerned that the family issue of the recently eeds of parents.	ctively involved in family issues
	ne current age-based television rating systeming soon on this issue which is so important to	
Sincerely,		
Torothy P. B.	laddes	
Torothy P. A)	Bridge Rd	
Danford, R.C.	27330	

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MAR 1 0 1997

Feb. 10, 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION CIFICE OF SECRETARY

OFFICE OF SECRETARY Mr. Hundt, DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL Lam a 62 year old grandmether of seven retired Rejectived Murse Law very concerned about the lack of maralety in america. It seems every To senson there is more a more sex minlenes indecency exploited on the screen for all to My husband and I are very offended by all this garlage for our gundehilbred to absorb into their Frains - little try little this evil is filtered into them. The behavior of the young jeaple are praving The Gailene of the FCC to engoise the Federal Transcrit indecency law against TV stations seems to fell on your conscience as chairman. want to be judgel before Get on this evil, mould you? Please change your policy and enforce the indecency also, I'm asking you to reject the Glavel retinge proposed from the Motion fectine Association of america and substitute instead a system that rates programming tey control, is govento demand Even a relatively good pagam is sometimes tomberled , sepuel abuertisement, Seton try disjusting, suggistine certainly has a way of getting into our minks, been't he? your cand

Tet 17, 1997

The Read Hundle,

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MAR 1 0 1997

Den Mr. Shendt,

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Please have your Communication Charge its policy and enforces the broadcast indecency law against T.V. Stations.

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FCC must substitute a

Septem that rates pargramming

by Content as perents demand

We must save our

Children from this fifth

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List ABCDE Mrs. Carl Drassword

The North Carolina

Extension Homemakers Association, Inc. of the Copy Oplication FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

February 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20554

Commissioner Hundt:

We are writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's rating system.

The National Association for Family and Community Education and its affiliate, North Carolina Extension Homemakers Association, are grass-roots organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for the past 60 years. We are concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented television rating system does not address the needs of parents.

The questions generated by the current age-based television rating system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in America today.

Sincerely,

Karthen Brown

1235 x00x

Lovelle Falls, NC 28647

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(1897-55

DANJEL E. SPECTOR 1317 Seventh Avenue Northeast Jacksonville, Alabama 36265

February 17, 1997

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RECEIVED

MAR 1 0 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Mr. Reed E. Hundt Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Hundt:

I am writing to complain about the application of FCC rules that limit the television stations that cable services can offer. My problem is the rule that allows a "local" station that provides national network coverage to bar cable services from carrying that same network from another community.

Maybe there was at one time some reason for such a rule to "protect" small, local TV stations from competition from larger metropolitan stations. This seems to me, however, to run counter to the current notion that government intervention in economic matters should be limited.

The specific problem that I hope you can help resolve concerns the recent reshuffling of network television service in northern Alabama. TV 40 in Anniston merged with TV 33 in Huntsville and changed from CBS to ABC. Although both communities were promised that the new station would continue to serve their local markets, the new station really concentrates on the primary market in this area, Birmingham. I do not particularly like this as, like most people, I have an affection for my community and its institutions, the local TV station included. But if the local market cannot support a separate network TV station, so be it. I can survive.

What I really resent, however, is the fact that the new "local" station has the power to bar the local cable from carrying its network to my home. I used to be able to watch ABC from Atlanta. My new "local" station, TV 40/33, has exercised its right to bar the local cable from continuing this service.

Please look into this. If there is anything the FCC can do to get Atlanta ABC service back to Calhoun County, I would appreciate it. If the FCC is bound by legislative rules that allow TV40/33 to deny us this freedom of viewing choice, please advise me what the specific rules are so that I can approach my Congressional delegation to see if the governing legislation can be changed.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Spector, PhD

Dail E. Specky

CC:

Anniston Star

attached is a copy of a letter I sent to ABC

No. of Copies rec'd /

DANJEL E. SPECTOR 1317 Seventh Avenue Northeff ECEIVED Jacksonville, Alabama 36265

February 17, 1997

MAR 1 0 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

President ABC, Incorporated 77 West 66th Street New York, New York 10023

Dear Sir:

I would like to tell you that I no longer watch the ABC network and why.

The television stations in northern Alabama recently shuffled their network coverage. Our local station, Channel 40, merged with Channel 33 and switched from CBS to ABC. That is not the problem. The local cable carries all networks.

But there is a problem. Actually two problems. First of all, the new Channel 40/33 assured this community that it would continue to be our "local" station although it would now also serve the Birmingham and Huntsville areas. That promise has not been kept. Coverage of local events has been atrocious. In the case of weather alerts coverage has bordered on irresponsible. Calhoun County citizens now watch Channels 13 or 6 from Birmingham for quicker, more accurate data on emergencies.

The other problem is the inability of our local cable service to continue to carry the Atlanta ABC station and keep us up to date on what is going on there. That is important to many of us as this community almost as close to Atlanta as it is to Birmingham, and actually closer than it is to Huntsville. Channel 40/33 has requested that service be discontinued as they are our local ABC station and have this right under FCC rules. When my wife called to complain, the arrogant reply was that Channel 40/33 had this right, and that any business would take the opportunity to cut off competition if it could do so legally. My wife responded that she was in business herself and her response to competition was to work harder. That left no impression on the management of Channel 40/33.

To conclude, ABC has lost two viewers in this household. I suspect that it has lost many other viewers in this area. Your national advertisers will eventually suffer, as will your Atlanta advertisers. If this is your normal manner of operation, you and your stockholders have a problem.

Sincerely,

Daniel E. Spector, PhD

Dail E. Spita

CC:

Anniston Star
Federal Communications Commission ✓

EDWARD J. ANNEN, SR. RECEIVED

1715 Kingston Ave. Kalamazoo, Michigan 49001-5103 1-616-345-2020

MAR 1 0 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY
February 22, 1997

WOOD-TV8 120 College S.E. CORMONECIAL Ave. Kalamazoo, Mich. 49001
REED HUNDT, Chairman FCC 1919 M St. Washington, D.C. 20554
Kalamazoo Cable Television Administrator 230 E. Crosstown Pkwy Kal, MI 49001

To Whom it may concern: NBC-Ch 8 Kalamazoo area

As of January 1, 1997, WOOD-TV Channel 8 NBC has pulled it's signal from the Kalamazoo area serviced by Cablevision of Michigan. This is the third time in less then three years that conflict has arisen. The Federal Communication Commission headed by Reed E. Hundt has been of no help and neither has the Kalamazoo Cable Television Administrator. It seems that Wood-TV8 (NBC) and Cablevision don't want to resolve this issue in the best interest of the consumers in this area, I would like to make my own suggestion to resolve this issue. It is as follows:

Since I consider BROADCAST BASIC as ABC, CBS and NBC, the monthly charge for this service is \$8.57. I want Cablevision of Michigan to credit my account #07813-015096-01-0 with 1/3 of the monthly charge or \$2.86 per month plus the monthly FCC charge of .04¢ and the City of Kalamazoo franchise fee of \$1.00 until this issue is resolved and the consumers receive all of the major TV networks broadcasting. This total would amount to \$3.90 per month credit to each and every user of Cablevision of Michigan. The FCC should not be paid the .04¢ monthly user FEE because they haven't earned it. The City of Kalamazoo should give up their \$1.00 FEE also.

To solve the issue, I propose that WOOD-TV8 NBC pay 50% of the local advertising revenue and 33 1/3% of the national advertising revenue to Cable-vision of Michigan for carrying the NBC TV-8 signal. In return Wood-TV8 should be compensated with a reasonable user fee for allowing Cablevision of Michigan to carry it's signal.

I place the blame for our problem solely on Reed E. Hundt and the Federal Communication Commission for all of their AMBIGUOUS RULINGS. If anybody in the FCC had any common sense they would have settled this long ago with a uniform regulation throughout the whole United States. Leaving it up to the locals doesn't do the job.

As a user of cable television, I want what I'm paying for. It seems that nobody cares about the consumer, all we do is pay the bills.

cc: G. Harry Thompson, Harold Lawrence

Respectfully,

Lunen,

Edward J. Annen, Sr.

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MAR 1 0 1997

FCE - ILLINOIS

Mary Ellen Keegan President 25 S. Crescent Drive Mundelein, IL 60060 Telephone 847-566-7056

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF SECRETARY

8311 Osceola Niles, IL 60714-2523 February 20, 1997

Jean Lesniak Vice President 8311 Osceola Niles, IL 60714 847-967-7655 The Honorable Reed Hunt, Chairman Federal Communications Commission 1919 M. Street NW Washington D.C. 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Elizabeth Wertke Secretary 32550 N. Highway 12 Ingleside, IL 60041 815-385-4243 Thank you for the work you have already accomplished in making TV viewing better for our nation's children. The V Chip will go a long way to helping parents protect their children during their formative years from

adverse programming.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Shirley Rees Treasurer 1425 Steward Road Steward, IL 60553-0728 815-824-2279 However, parents need and want guidelines other than age. A CONTENT BASED RATING is imperative if we are to lessen the daily use of unacceptable language, teen-age pregnancies, and violence.

As a member of the Family and Community Education, Ass. -Illinois, an affiliate of the National Association for Family and Community education, I am asking you to support holding a public hearing on the current TV rating system.

Please consider the greater good, not the television producers, not the media, nor the newspaper and TV guides who say space to include 3 more letters (S,V,L) is not possible.

Anything is possible if one cares enough.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Jean Lesniak

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RECEIVED

Federal Communications MAR 10 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Commission:

J.V. fas degraded etselfener the commercials can be quite objectionable.

The rating help.

The improvement of J.V. is not impossible.

Merst citizens wort hetter T, V, — Shonk You A Citizen

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US 47-55

February 3, 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL Chairman Reed Hundt Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street NW

RECEIVED IMAR 1 0 1997 FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Washington. D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt

I am writing to request that a public hearing be held regading the television rating system.

Yours truly.

Wood Co. W.Va.

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PINE GROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTA

2701 Summit Avenue

Baltimore, Md. 21234

Chairman Reed Hundt - FCC 1919 M. Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036 RECEIVED

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

MAR 1 0 1997

Dear Sir,

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

I am President of Pine Grove Elementary School's PTA and support the National PTA and Maryland's PTA in their efforts to reject as inadequate the television industry's recent age-based rating system.

Personally, I think 8 to 9 p.m. Eastern Standard Time should be designated for children's programming, 10 to 11 p.m. should be for adult programming and 9 to 10 p.m. should be for appropriate programs in between.

Most of the shows in prime time seem to be routinely designated PG. Having so many shows rated PG in and of itself reduces the usefulness of the system and often makes it meaningless.

The show Friends, is an exception that is rated higher; but is on at 8 p.m. This shows the hollowness and cynicism of the system. Friends is a great show and its popularity makes it a good lead off show that the industry hopes will keep viewers tuned to the same station for shows that follow. The industry by their own system recognize that Friends should be on later at night; but show it at 8 to generate ratings which generate ad revenue.

Please encourage a system that is useful for parents and provides parents with real information. The key to this system should be a concerted effort to require 8 to 9 p.m. to be a children's hour which would push the industry to develop true children's programming.

Sincerely,

Walter R. Hayes
PTA President

cc:Maryland State PTA

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The North Carolina

Extension Homemakers Association, Inc.

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RECEIVED
MAR 1 0 1997

February 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable Steed Secret
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Commissioner Hernett:

We are writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's rating system.

The National Association for Family and Community Education and its affiliate, North Carolina Extension Homemakers Association, are grass-roots organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for the past 60 years. We are concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented television rating system does not address the needs of parents.

The questions generated by the current age-based television rating system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in America today.

Sincerely, Bernadine Sandquist

The North Carolina

Extension Homemakers Association, Inc.

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February 1997

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TEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable <u>Yeed</u> <u>Fund</u>
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Commissioner Hundt

We are writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's rating system.

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The questions generated by the current age-based television rating system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in America today.

Sincerely,

Frankie Styde

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The North Carolina

Extension Homemakers Association, Inc.

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February 1997

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable <u>Reed Hundt</u> Federal Communications Commission

1919 M Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20554

Commissioner Hundt

We are writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's rating system.

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Sincerely,

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